

## EXPECT OPERATORS TO OBEY U. S. EDICT

Miners Declare 14 Per Cent  
Raise Not Enough, and Will  
Fight It Out.

(Continued from First Page.)

Not attempt to force the miners to return to their work, but will offer protection to those miners who desire to accept the Government's decision of a fair increase and settle down to the production of the coal so badly needed by the nation and the world.

The wage scale committees will meet tomorrow to take formal action on the proposition made by Dr. Garfield. There is but slight hope that it will be accepted. There was every indication here today that the negotiations would be broken off despite the statement of Thomas T. Brewster, chairman of the operators' committee, that "the operators are ready to negotiate a new wage scale agreement, despite Dr. Garfield's statement that the Government will not permit an advance in the price of coal."

Many of the operators declare that they must reject the proposition of Dr. Garfield, or be forced to close down their mines. Others feel that they can stand the increase, with hopes of increasing the price of coal when the Lever law becomes ineffective with the declaration of peace.

Dr. Garfield stated specifically to

the conference last night that his proposal for a 14 per cent increase was in no manner an ultimatum, but was merely a statement of the Government's decision as to what the fair basis of settlement would be. In the face of this statement, it appears that the Cabinet has decided to rest its battle very largely with public opinion.

**Miners Will Not Return.**  
"The miners will not return to work on a 14 per cent basis," said Edward Stewart, president of the Indiana district council of the United Mine Workers' union.  
"This proposition, if carried out, will break completely ruin many mine operators who are too old to start anew," said P. H. Panna, of the Indiana Operators' Association. "Many mines will have to close down."

Little attention will be given in today's conference, it was indicated, to Garfield's proposal for an advisory commission of miners and operators headed by Secretary Lane to make a continuous study of wage and working conditions, profits of operators and coal production.

Miners and operators will not discuss this, it was said, until progress is made with the wage question. The operators, it was learned, hope to collect figures on profits in 1919, showing they are losing money. They plan to present these to Garfield with the hope of persuading him to consent to an increase in selling prices.

**WOMEN TO FIGHT H. C. OF L.**

DENVER, Col., Nov. 27.—Honorable patches will be fashionable here until the high cost of clothes drops. Women club members today signed a pledge to stop buying clothes until prices drop.

Now is the time to save. Reinvest your Liberty Bond interest in U. S. S.

## GARFIELD TELLS WHY 14 PER CENT RAISE FOR MINERS IS FAIR

Fuel Administrator Harry A. Garfield announced the terms of settlement of the coal strike, which the Government will sanction, in the following statement made last night to the joint subcommittee of the coal operators and miners:

On the 24th inst. I announced that the public must not be asked to pay more than it is now paying for coal, unless it is necessary to do so in order to provide reasonable wages to the mine workers and a reasonable profit to the operators. Careful investigation forces me to the conclusion that, in accordance with this and the other principles set forth on the 24th inst., the public ought not to be required to pay any increase in coal prices at this time.

The prices fixed by the Government on coal were calculated to increase production for war purposes. Coal was basic and the increase in production was imperative. The operators are now in receipt of margins which were necessary to effect that increase of production, but which are larger than are required under present conditions. It was estimated that the production needed for 1918 was 600,000,000 tons. The estimate for 1919 is 500,000,000 tons. Applying the principles set forth in paragraph of the statement of November 24, when the average increases in wages since 1913 for the various classes of mine workers are deducted from the increase in the cost of living since that time, we arrive at the amount of additional increase in wages justifiable at the present time.

**Urges 14 Per Cent Increase.**  
I have taken the figures of the Bureau of Labor Statistics for both cost of living and for the weighted average of wage increases. According to these figures the cost of living has risen 79.8 per cent since 1913, and the amount necessary to bring the average wages of mine workers up to this point at the present time is 14 per cent.

Readjustments heretofore made since 1913 were such as to give certain classes of mine workers an average increase in excess of the increase in the cost of living, and certain others an average increase below the increase in the cost of living. This form of adjustment was made in order to establish or preserve certain relative bases in the mining industry.

I do not think this condition, however, ought to result in giving to mine workers, as a whole, and, in consequence, imposing upon the public, a total average increase in excess of the total average increase in the cost of living, because, if this course be adopted, the result would be that the total

increased burden placed upon the mining industry will be far in excess of the increase in the cost of living. If this principle were applied in industries generally, it is obvious that the resulting cost would be passed along to the general public, and the increased wages would increase in a rapid spiral, taking as a minimum the percentage of increase in the cost of living. In the long run this would add many new and serious burdens to the cost of living of the entire public, and would fall more injuriously upon the working classes than any other.

**Government Price Control.**

It seems to me that the reasonable way to deal with this situation is to give to the industry as a whole an average increase commensurate with the increase in the cost of living, and then let that amount of increase be apportioned in accordance with the wage bases that are acceptable to the employers and the employees. Control of prices by the Government will be maintained for the present.

The present negotiation stands by itself, but it is far from disposing of the fundamental controversy between operators and mine workers. That controversy is bound to be a continuing one as matters now stand. It involves living conditions and conditions in the mines, as well as wages and profits, and the general relation between operators and mine workers. Therefore, to aid in applying the principles which have governed us and which should govern in reaching conclusions in the future, it is urged that a permanent consultative body with purely advisory powers, be set up, consisting of the Secretary of the Interior as chairman and of an equal number of representatives of the operators and of the mine workers, chosen in such manner as they may each determine from time to time.

**Advocates Coal Reports.**

In order that the data necessary for the consideration of this consultative body may at all times be available, it is urged that the Congress make provision for collecting definite and trustworthy information concerning the coal and coke industry and for the tabulation of the same in quarterly reports showing:

- 1—Production, distribution, storage, and stocks of coal and coke.
- 2—The cost of production and distribution and of maintaining suitable stocks, and any other data concerning the industry deemed necessary.
- 3—The cost of living in the several coal fields.
- 3—The selling prices and profits obtained by the operators, middlemen and retail dealers.
- 5—Export requirements and the

**DR. H. A. GARFIELD,**  
Fuel Administrator,  
who has fixed 14 per cent  
as the maximum increase  
at this time for the coal  
miners and who is pre-  
pared to enforce the Gov-  
ernment's decision.



conditions limiting them.  
The settlement of the present controversy on the wage and price basis above indicated must be considered in the light of the proposal to set up this permanent, consultative body. While it will not have powers of decision, it will hardly seem possible to a reasonable man that in the light of its conclusions demands for exorbitant profits or unreasonable wages can be successfully maintained, or that conditions unfavorable to the American standard of living will be tolerated.

## McADOO SAYS COAL MEN ARE OBSCURING ISSUE

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—Bituminous coal operators were accused of obscuring the issue by William G. McAdoo, former Secretary of the Treasury, in a formal answer yesterday to their telegram criticizing his earlier statement that they made "shocking and indefensible profits in 1917."

"The statement in your telegram," said his reply, "that the average margin per ton of all coal mined in 1918 was 46 cents has no bearing upon this issue. These averages are fre-

quently used as convenient smoke screens to obscure the fact."

"Whatever the margin per ton was," Mr. McAdoo added, "if it resulted in excessive profits on the capital employed, then clearly the public should not be made to pay higher prices for coal, and the mine owners should absorb the wage increase to the men. The income tax returns speak for themselves."

"You state that the bituminous coal operators will welcome the publication of just as full current tax returns for the bituminous coal industry as are published for any other industry. The publication of returns for any other industry has nothing to do with this case."

**Wage Increase Justified.**  
"I am convinced that the increased wages proposed by Secretary Wilson for the mine workers are just and reasonable."

"I ignore the offensive tone of your telegram because neither personalities nor questioning of motive should be permitted to obscure the issue. I am not surprised, moreover, that you think it bad taste for me as a private citizen to express my opinion upon an important question concerning the general public, but even a private citizen has as much right as mine owners to express his opinions in free America. I shall never hesitate so long as I have a voice, to raise it in behalf of the public whenever I think it proper to do so."

## MINERS' "PROTECTION", SOUGHT BY CHURCHES

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—Protection for the coal miners against "exploita-



Antiseptic, prophylactic, deodorizing, fragrant and refreshing. An ideal face, skin, baby and dusting powder. It soothes and cools the skin, overcomes heavy perspiration, is convenient and economical and takes the place of other perfumes for the skin. Splendid after bathing with Cuticura Soap. A few grains dusted on the skin and hands imparts to the person a delicate, individual and distinctive fragrance, leaving the skin sweet and wholesome.

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tion" by the operators was asked today in a report of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America after a review of the coal strike situation. The report, addressed to the Federal Government by Rev. Worth M. Tippey, executive secretary, said, in part:

"If the Government is to assume responsibility for curtailing the use of economic power in which, thus far, labor unions have had the protection of law, it is under just as compelling an obligation to provide for its wage-earning constituency and to protect them against such a situation as has been developed."

"The miners unquestionably have a real grievance, and yet they were powerless to make their demands effective save through a strike. If the strike cannot be tolerated because the strength of those who use it has become so great as to constitute a public peril, then the Government must find a way to secure its workers against exploitation, to guarantee an adequate hearing of demands and to secure wages and hours of work that will make possible an American living standard."

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Golden oak with rubber gloss finish; a good size, with five roomy drawers.

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### Roll Record Cabinet

A cabinet for music roll records; stands 50 inches high; handsome mahogany finish.

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**\$22.50**

### Medicine Cabinet

All-steel construction, with white enamel finish; oval or oblong mirrors.

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Special Sale Price

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**\$6.00**

### High Chairs

All wood; substantial construction; golden oak finish.

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Special Sale Price

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**\$2.75**

### Baby Cribs

Strong frames with white enamel finish; high sides with the patent drop feature.

Regular Price, \$24.00

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**\$16.25**

### Bedroom Suite

Four beautiful pieces in mahogany finish. A pattern of the Queen Anne period. Large Dresser, Toilet Table with triple-plate mirrors, Chiffonette and Bed designed to match.

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An all-steel cabinet, finished in white enamel; a model designed for the maximum of convenience and compactness.

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**\$72.50**

### Fireside Rockers

Large "Comfy" Rockers, handsomely upholstered in imitation leather—choice of brown or black.

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**\$22.50**

### Bookcase

The famous Gunn Sectional Bookcase, in mahogany finish; four sections.

Regular Price, \$40.00

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**\$31.50**

### Tea Wagon

Genuine oak frame in the rich Jacobean finish; rubber-tired wheels.

Regular Price, \$25.00

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### Dressers

Golden oak with rubber gloss finish; large mirror and three large drawers.

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